



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mixed, but overall mostly steady. Retail demand was seasonally slow to moderate; food service was light to moderate, but good for catering services and into fast food. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were close to tight and continued to have strong movement. Boneless skinless breasts were in balance to close, thighs were adequate to well cleared, and all other items were at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 to 73.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 69.00 cents last year on December 17, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	160.50
BREASTS - B/S	143.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	74.00
LEG QUARTERS	31.00
WINGS	99.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**SOUTHERN REGION** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was seasonally light to moderate with best interest for fast food, restaurants, and retail ads. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were balanced to closely cleared and held with confidence. Wings were tight and moving strong, and dark meat was mixed, but available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST REGION** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally fair to moderate. Offerings were generally sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts at least fully adequate; boneless skinless breasts, wings and thighs were in close balance and clearing satisfactorily. Drumsticks were readily available.

**MIDWEST REGION** Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady with offerings adequate to light. Retail movement was slow to moderate and best for limited features. Food service demand was improved over prior trading period; good into catering and fast food, light to moderate elsewhere. Floor stocks adequate; weights mostly desirable. Parts trade activity was moderate to good on wings and boneless/skinless breasts, limited on all other cuts. Fresh wing supplies were short, frozen available; boneless/skinless breasts were tight; thighs adequate with leg quarters and drum supplies building and fully available. The market tone was firm on wings and boneless/skinless breasts and steady on all other parts.

**WESTERN REGION** The market tone was about steady. Offerings of sized product in fairly good balance and heavy and random weights fully adequate, to cover immediate needs. Demand by stores fair to fairly good best to cover features, white tablecloth restaurants moderate and fast food fairly good. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on parts with white meat items in the strongest position. Floor stocks adequate overall.

## CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 12/11/04	2004	2003	<u>PREVIOUS YEAR</u>
EGGS SET	209,455	207,313	+01
CHICKS PLACED	171.742	166.640	+03

## BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 11, 2004. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 172 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 11, 2004. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through December 11, 2004 were 8.20 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING** Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 22-Jan-05 is estimated at 157.9 million head. This compares to 155.5 million head the previous week and to 157.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 149.3 million head and the composite weighted average price was 69.79 cents per pound.

DECEMBER 14, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 15, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	680	115.00-150.00	118-122	121.49	BREAST - B/S	545	115.00-150.00	118-122	121.24
TENDERLOINS	285	104.00-170.00	115-120	121.35	TENDERLOINS	292	104.00-170.00	115-120	118.70
BREAST - LINE RUN	105	72.00-76.00	72-74	73.33	BREAST - LINE RUN	85	70.00-74.00	70-72	71.88
FRONT HALVES	100	52.00-62.00	57-58	57.40	FRONT HALVES	45	56.00-62.00	-	59.33
LEGS	64	30.00-49.00	32-34	35.34	LEGS	67	30.00-49.00	32-34	33.37
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	510	23.00-29.00	25-26	25.55	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	510	23.00-29.00	27	26.80
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	970	25.00-32.00	28-29	28.06	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,010	25.00-32.00	28-29	28.34
WINGS (WHOLE)	305	94.00-100.00	96-98	97.84	WINGS (WHOLE)	195	94.00-101.00	96-100	97.72
WINGS (CUT)	593	117.00-125.00	119-121	119.57	WINGS (CUT)	725	116.00-125.00	119-123	120.66
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
37.50 - 45.50	41.48	39.50-45.50	43.07	42.03

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

Trucklot buying activity was seasonally fair to moderate. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were in good balance and held with confidence. Bone-in breasts were at least adequate. Wings were in close balance to short. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on boneless skinless breasts, wings and thighs. Drumsticks were barely steady. Other items were generally steady.

\*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. **DECEMBER 14, 2004**

CURRENT NEG				WTD	CURRENT NEG				WTD
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	
BREAST - B/S	130-135	129.83	887,327		BREAST - B/S	135	126.99	551,980	
TENDERLOINS	110	109.48	200,000		TENDERLOINS	110	119.41	152,160	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	75.93	165,040		BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	76.00	136,622	
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	70.73	106,400		BREAST - LINE RUN	68	69.90	109,240	
LEGS	42-43	38.59	292,120		LEGS	42-43	40.40	240,800	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.54	521,195		LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	29.69	362,630	
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	29.91	169,300		DRUMSTICKS	23-24	32.61	142,560	
THIGHS	27-28	37.71	69,440		THIGHS	27-28	39.74	53,920	
B/S THIGHS	78-79	74.72	80,180		B/S THIGHS	78-79	69.15	93,800	
WINGS (WHOLE)	99-100	107.52	149,640		WINGS (WHOLE)	101-102	109.44	222,960	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.66	37,200		BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.76	38,240	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.78	24,440		LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	30.12	23,800	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.98	18,680		GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	62.16	21,880	

\*\*\*\*\*  
 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

\* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Alabama	12/15	12/14	12/13	12/10	12/13	12/10	12/08	12/06		
Arkansas	4,078	4,044	3,788	4,125	5.39	5.01	4,053	5.30		
Delmarva	5,485	5,569	5,498	5,369	5.16	4.72	5,472	5.16		
KY-LA-TN	2,187	2,190	2,158	2,209	5.69	5.62	2,188	5.68		
Mississippi	1,859	2,133	2,147	1,961	5.24	5.04	2,048	5.14		
North Car	3,071	3,076	3,020	3,149	5.77	5.53	3,019	5.61		
Texas	2,372	2,389	2,472	2,736	6.46	6.40	2,539	6.49		
Total	2,508	2,517	2,511	3,032	5.21	5.06	2,457	5.29		
Mon-Wed	21,560	21,918	21,594	22,581	5.50	5.25	21,776	5.46		
	65,649(A)						65,144(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 15-Dec-04 is estimated to be 32,256,000 head down 1.29 percent from a week ago and up 11.85 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,677,000, last year 28,838,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	63-67
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 103-105
	DRY PACK 103-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 108-111
	DRY PACK 111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 89-93
	DRY PACK 89-95
DUCKS	175-192

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 18-Dec-04

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	12/18/04 (1)	12/11/04
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	170,324 (2)	166,469
Light hens	1,441	1,593
Heavy hens	1,455	1,349
Total	173,220	169,411

(1)Estimated

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 18-Dec-04 is 154.3 million head compared to 156.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 170.7 million head or 16.4 million more than estimated available. For the week of 25-Dec-04 the estimated available is 152.1 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 12/13/04	61,434	61,183
AM 12/01/04	66,595	60,214
CHG	-5,161	969
PCT CHG	-8	2

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/13/04	12/6/04	12/15/03	12/13/04	12/6/04	12/15/03
<b>PACIFIC</b>						
<b>COAST</b>	4,187	4,273	10,959	7,129	6,040	3,485
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	55	47	398	3,276	2,068	1,772

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2004

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	72-79
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	74-83

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

FOR 12/14/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	.25	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	1.00	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	1.50	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	2.50	2.75	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	.80	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	4.00	-
GEESE lb.	.70	1.05	.88	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.45	.50	.47	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.05	.80	.34	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.00	4.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	3.50	3.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	.75	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS 34							

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending December 10 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	71.83	116.37	76.24	20.06	8.03	49.76
High	73.84	128.41	88.28	24.08	12.04	49.76
Mostly	71.83	120.38	80.26	22.07	10.03	49.76

**SAN JUAN**

Low	70.63	124.40	80.26	20.06	8.03	47.75
High	73.03	132.42	92.29	28.09	12.04	47.75
Mostly	71.83	128.41	84.27	24.08	8.03	47.75

**NEW SAN JUAN**

Low	71.43	120.38	84.27	20.06	8.03	50.16
High	73.03	132.42	92.29	24.08	10.03	50.16
Mostly	71.83	124.40	88.28	22.07	8.03	50.16

**BECERRA**

Low	71.83	124.40	84.27	20.06	8.03	50.16
High	74.24	136.43	92.29	28.09	12.04	50.16
Mostly	71.83	128.41	88.28	24.08	8.03	50.16

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate and continued to keep the bulk of seller offerings in generally good balance. Live supplies were seasonally moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 64 to 78 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, wings were in short supply. Boneless/skinless breasts were generally no more than adequate. Both whole and boneless/skinless thighs were adequate to well cleared. Leg quarters were fully adequate. Drumsticks were ample.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	59-84
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	67.79
NO. OF BOXES	7,557

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